

[0024] The signal processing means 204 measure heart rate from signals received from the outer and inner structure, and from the signal processing means 204 a measured signal can then be supplied in a wireless or wired transmission to a computer, for example. The signal processing means 204 can be implemented using separate logic components or one or more ASIC circuits (Application Specific Integrated Circuit), for example.

[0025] Without the connection established via the skin and the signal processing means 204, there is no galvanic contact between the electrically conductive outer structure 200 and inner structure 210, but they are electrically isolated or separated from one another by a weakly conductive material (having an impedance greater than the impedance between the skin and the electrodes). They may be separated by plastic or some other electrically isolating or weakly conductive material of the wristband 104 and the measuring unit 102. In addition to or instead of the electrode 108 that is in the inner structure 210, under the measuring unit 102, the measuring device 100 may comprise electrode 214 that belongs to the inner structure 210 coupled to the signal processing means through a wire that also belongs to the inner structure 210. If electrode 108, coupled to the signal processing means 204 of the measuring unit 102, is used, electrode 214 may be coupled to electrode 108 by the wire 212. Electrode 214 reduces contact impedance between the hand and the measuring device.

[0026] FIG. 2B illustrates the same implementation alternative as FIG. 2A. In the disclosed solution at least part of the electrically conductive outer structure 200 meant for contact with the other hand is located, as indicated by its name, on the outer surface 250 of the measuring device 100. The part of the electrically conductive outer structure 200 on the outer surface 250 of the measuring device may form one or more electrodes. Examples of these are electrode 106 and electrode 110 (not shown in FIG. 2B). The outer surface 250 may be considered to refer to the entire surface of the measuring device 100, apart from the surface that comes into contact with the hand to which the device is attached. Similarly, at least part of the electrically conductive inner structure meant for contact with the hand to which the device is attached is located, as indicated by its name, on the inner surface 252 of the measuring device, the inner surface referring to the measuring device 100 surface that is in contact with the skin of the hand to which the device is attached. The part of the electrically conductive inner structure is electrode 214 (and/or electrode 108, which is not shown in FIG. 2B), for example.

[0027] FIG. 3A shows one of many methods of implementing an electrically conductive structure. According to this alternative, the entire electrically conductive outer structure 200 is arranged on the outer surface 250 of the annular measuring device 100 in the form of a semi-circle, which allows the electrically conductive outer structure 200 as a whole to function as an electrode for the user's other hand 152. In the disclosed solution fingers of the other hand 152 are used for taking a pinch grip of the measuring device 100 such that the hand to which the device is attached is left between the fingers, for example the forefinger 154 and the thumb 156. The forefinger 156, for example, touches one end of the electrically conductive outer structure represent-

ing electrode 110, while the thumb touches the other end of the electrically conductive outer structure representing electrode 106.

[0028] The electrically conductive, semi-circular outer structure 200 can be arranged on the outer surface 250 of the measuring device also in the manner shown in FIG. 3B. In this solution the electrically conductive outer structure 200 is not on the measuring unit 102 at all, but entirely on the wristband, which is why there is no need to touch the measuring unit 102 with the fingers of the other hand. The display on the measuring unit 102 of the measuring device 100 can thus be viewed without the other hand disturbing visibility. Instead of a semi-circle, the electrically conductive outer structure 200 may be arranged in the form of a longer portion on the outer surface 250 of the measuring device 100. An electrically conductive structure 200 slightly smaller than a semi-circle is also possible, but according to the disclosed solution it must be possible to take a pinch grip of the measuring device 100 with the fingers of the other hand so that the hand to which the device is attached is left between the fingers that touch the electrically conductive outer structure 200, and the contact force applied through the fingers on parts of the electrically conductive outer structure 200 presses these parts towards each other. This kind of situation appears when the electrically conductive outer structure 200 on the measuring device 100 extends to opposite sides of the hand to which the device is attached and when at least portions of the structure that are on opposite sides of the hand to which the measuring device 100 is attached are arranged on the outer surface of the measuring device.

[0029] FIG. 4A shows one of many methods of implementing the electrically conductive structure. In this solution the electrically conductive outer structure 200 extends in a circular manner around the entire measuring device 100, on the outer surface thereof. FIG. 4B illustrates the solution of FIG. 4A by showing the measuring device of FIG. 4A from above. The measuring device 100 may be entirely covered with the electrically conductive outer structure. However, the display 400, for example, is not necessarily coated with the electrically conductive outer structure 200, for example, although it is possible to produce a transparent layer made of an electrically conductive material (an Indium-Tin-Oxide, or ITO, layer) onto the display 400.

[0030] Finally, with reference to FIGS. 5 and 6 and to some of the subject matter already discussed, the manufacture of a measuring device and the measurement of heart rate with the device will be discussed. FIG. 5 is a flow diagram illustrating a method for manufacturing the measuring device. In step 500 the electrically conductive inner structure is placed on the inner surface of the measuring device. In step 502 the electrically conductive outer structure is arranged to the measuring device in such a way that at least part of the structure is on opposite sides of the hand to which the device is attached. The electrically conductive outer structure and inner structure may be made of electrically conductive plastic or metal. The electrically conductive material may be provided as a coating on the outer and/or inner structure. In step 504 the measuring device is provided with signal processing means. In step 506 the electrically conductive outer structure and inner structure are connected to the signal processing means for heart rate measurement.